"Miss Appomattox Contestants"

photos by Joe Vaughan

Kim Rene' Ferguson

Kathy Faye Johnson

Pamela O'Brien

September 23, 8 p.m., is drawing closer. The Miss Appomattox Pageant will be held at Appomattox County High School auditorium. Three of the hopefuls are pictured above.

Kim Rene' Ferguson is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Delaware Ferguson, Jr. Kim attended Oral Roberts University and is presently attending Lynchburg General-Marshall Lodge Hospital School of Nursing. She is a member of the Virginia and the National Society of Poets and listed in "Who's Who in Poetry". For her talent presentation, Kim will do a recitation of her own poetry. Webb Tire Company will be sponsoring her.

Kay Faye Johnson is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred D. Johnson. She is a seventeen-year old senior at Appomattox County High School and plans to attend Virginia Baptist School of Nursing. Kathy's hobbies are singing, sewing and playing the piano. She will demonstrate her skills by modeling a dress she has made and playing the piano. Her sponsor is the Appomattox Hardware.

Pamela O'Brien is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. E. O'Brien. She is presently a senior at Appomattox County High School and is planning to enter Virginia Baptist Hospital School of Nursing after graduation. She has had experience singing and traveling with the Liberty Baptist Singers. For her talent presentation she will be singing. Wilbun's Super Market is sponsoring Pamela in the pageant.

Bicycle Safety Stressed

RICHMOND - A bicycle is not a toy for children, but rather should be considered a first vehicle about which safety-promoting attitudes and practices should be taught, in the view of a Virginia Commonwealth University physician.

Dr. Lorne K. Garrettson of the university's Medical College of Virginia believes parents can teach and evaluate a child's ability for safe vehicle operation. Tips on teaching the young beginning bicycle rider are written and distributed by the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Parents who are themselves bicyclists can direct behavior patterns both by teaching and by setting a good example, Garrettson says.

Most bicycle-related accidents involving children are single-bike accidents and aren't fatal, according to an analysis by the U. S. Consuemr Product Safety Commission. But fatalities do occur, and a large portion of them involve youngsters aged 5 to 14.

Major causes of bike accidents are loss of control and mechanical or structural problems, Garrettson says. Losing control frequently results from hitting holes, bumps or curbs or becoming flustered by traffic; another factor that frequently contributes to loss of control is riding a bicycle of inappropriate size.

Mechanical failures usually are the result of poor maintenance or a child's alteration of the equipment, according to Garrettson, who is a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics' Committee on Accident and Poison Prevention.

Bike-automobile collisions are infrequent, but those that occur are often severe, with the bicyclist responsible in the great majority of accidents. They include the rider's darting out of driveways and alleys or failing to heed a stop sign. Garretson says many such accidents occur near the bicyclist's home, where parental supervision or teaching might alter dangerous behavior.

Children through early elementary age should never be permitted to ride after dark, and older children's bikes should have adequate lighting and reflectors, he says. He believes use of flags should be encouraged to make the approach of bicyclen more evident during the daytime.

The physician, himself a bicyclist, recommends that parents stimulate and support programs to promote safe use of the bike as both a recreational and transportation vehicle.

Preschool and school programs can be developed to teach safe bicycle operations, Garrettson notes, and some communities already have such programs.

Scout Roundup Planned

The Blue Ridge Mountains Council announces plans to provide the opportunity for all interested youth to join cub scouting, scouting, or exploring this fall. School Night to Join Scouting will be held Sept. 14, 1978. Selected area schools will be open that evening so that boys 8, 9 and 10 years old and their parents can visit with neighborhood cub scout leaders and join the club scout pack in their area. A Troop Rally Night program will be held the week of Sept. 11-15. Area scout troops will conduct open houses during the week so that boys 11-18 years old can visit a neighborhood troop meeting, see scouting in action, and if they desire become a member of the troop. Oct. 2-6 is Explorer Open House Week. Boys and Girls, 15-20 years old will be invited to join an explorer post specializing in a career in which they are interested. Information flyers about the specific programs will be distributed through the local school systems. The Blue Ridge Mountains Council is a United Way Agency dedicated to providing programs which develop character, provide citizenship training, and promote personal fitness. Questions about the local fall roundup programs can be directed to Larry Stanek, 384-2156, Central District Chairman, or Tom Morgan, 237-4830, Control District Executive.

Boys interested in cubbing can join at the Appomattox or Pamplin Elementary Schools on September 14, at 7:30 p.m.

Boys interested in Scouting can join by attending Troop 546 Open House, Sept. 13, 7:00 at St. Ann's Church or Troop 101 Open House, Pamplin Elementary School, Sept. 14, 7:30 p.m.

The registration fee is $2.00, Boy's Life Magazine $3.60 - Total $5.60.

Evergreen Ruritans Plan Annual Family Day

The Evergreen Ruritan Club will hold its annual Family Field Day Activities on Saturday, September 9, 1978, at 2:30 p.m. at the Evergreen Softball Field. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be sold to raise money for community projects.

Also there will be horseshoes, volleyball and softball for all who wish to play. Bring your family and "glove" and come out and support this worthwhile community organization.

Outdoor Equipment

Taking Care Of Camping Gear

Vacuum, sweep or wisk broom the inside of your tent before you store it, paying special attention to the seams, where food crumbs or dirt often hide.

Clean the outside of your tent with a soft brush and lots of fresh water. Don't scrub too hard, for you can remove the water and/or fire-resisting finishes that were initially applied to the fabric.

Clean and lubricate the zipper with a silicone spray or petroleum jelly for good service next year. Loosely stuff the tent into a breathable bag and keep it in a cool, dry place for winter storage. Always avoid concrete floors.

Treat your sleeping bag like a fine garment. Clean it according to the manufacturers directions. Some are hand or machine washable, while others must be dry cleaned. Never use a detergent, only a mild soap.

Fold or hang the bag loosely in a cool, dry place for winter. If your equipment needs mending, take it to a local canvas firm for professional repair. For a list of firms in the United States and Canada, send 25¢ to the Canvas Products Association International, 350 Endicott Building, St. Paul, MN 55101.

THEN and NOW

THEN: The ancient Greeks realized that lemons have many uses. They recommended lemon leaves as an antidote for food poisoning and their rinds as a moth repellent. In the 12th century, peeled lemon pips became a treatment for wounds, and in the 17th and 18th centuries British doctors cleaned teeth with lemon peel and prescribed the juice, in which pearls had been dissolved, as a cure for epilepsy.

NOW: By the 20th century, lemonade had become America's most popular lemon drink. Children's lemonade stands became synonymous with the Fourth of July, and

wherever youngsters sold thirst-quenching drinks at their summer stands, cold lemonade was always the favorite. You can prepare a good tasting, economical version at home with a convenient powdered drink, new Minute Maid Lemonade Crystals, made from lemon juice and containing no artificial flavors or colors.

"All authority belongs to the people." Thomas Jefferson

"The silliest of all people are those who do foolish things to show off." Vauvenargues

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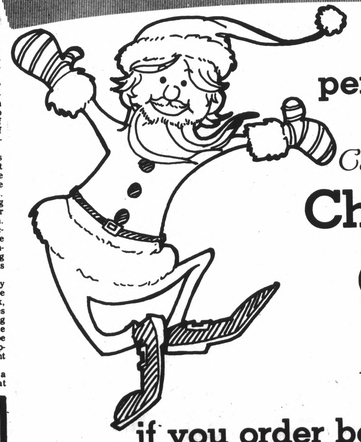

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THEN and NOW!

By Frances H. Paulette

Part 2 - The Pete Scruggs Story

Pete Scruggs, just turned 16; little did he know what the future held.

Just what is courage? We're all familiar with Mr. Webster's definition, but somehow it seems kind of vague and impersonal. Maybe the best way to describe courage is to think of some of the most courageous people we have ever known; there are many.

I know of no better way to define courage than to have a good look at the lives of a young man, George (Pete) Scruggs and his mother, Lorraine Brightwell. Mrs. Brightwell was born Lorraine Ragland; she married Scruggs; they were divorcrd some years ago and not too long ago she became Mrs. Brightwell.

Courage is what it takes to keep going when, after awakening from anesthesia, to find that the surgeon did not remove two lumps from your face but half of your face.

When Pete Scruggs was fully awake from the deep fog of anesthesia and the realization of what had happened became clear to him, he went into a state of shock which lasted the next three weeks.

What is agony? Pete knows!

For the next three weeks the nurses found it necessary to tape all of the mirrors in Pete's hospital room and in the adjoining bathroom. I know Pete now, it is hard to imagine he was in the state he described to me, but I know he wasn't lying.

"I had just turned 17, " said Pete, "I wanted to die; I constantly prayed to God that he would let me die. I was in such pain and agony I thought every minute that I couldn't take any more. I just wanted everything to be over, my life and all the mess that had happened to me. God knew best, as always; he gave me strength and courage to face and accept what had happened to my life, but it took time."

Pete Scruggs was silent for a moment, then he continued, "I accepted Jesus Christ as my personal Savioiur when I was 12. It has been my faith in God that has kept me from committing suicide."

Pete continued, "The old devil kept after me, 'How can you possibly love God after this, Pete Scruggs?' I pushed these angry thoughts to the back of my mind. I know God spared my life for a purpose and I am going to serve Him."

Pete Scruggs still could not bear to look in a mirror.

A young man was sent to the hospital for approximately 5 days, no more than a week anyway; he stayed six months, and they were long,agonizing months. It was six months and ten days to be exact. After he was allowed to go home, he went back to the hospital once a month for the gradual reconstruction of his face.

"Mama was my nurse" Pete said proudly. "She did everything but give me my shots.

Then came the long, painful, and often frustrating ordeal of learning how to live all over again—to eat and talk with half a pallet.

Following surgery Pete had been given glucose intravenously. Then Lorraine began feeding her son with only the tiny amount of food that could be held on her little finger. Gradually he made the transistion to eating from an ice teaspoon. He continued on baby food for an entire year.

Even though the surgery went as well as could be expected, Pete developed cataracts and had to have further surgery. Then came one of the hardest blows of all—he wouldn't be able to drive. Pete had always dreamed of being a TV repairman before his illness he not only loved to fix things, he had a real knack for repair work. This dream too was shattered.

For a while the cancer under his eye and in his lip seemed to be under control following the radical surgery; then it hit again. It was in 1967 it broke out in his nose, Pete was in and out of the hospital from 1967 until about three years ago.

Once again, Pete Scruggs had to face a trying ordeal, but he was not alone; his faith was growing each day.

Pete was told that he would probably be legally blind as a result of surgery to remove his nose; at the same time he underwent exploratory brain surgery. This was to determine if the cancer had spread even further.

In 1971 with a total of thirty-five doctors, working in three teams, Pete Scrugg's nose was removed. The operation took nine hours.

It was Dr. Milton Edgerton, one of the leading plastic surgeons in the United States that rebuilt his nose. Incidentally Pete has undergone a total of 69 operations and has received 105 units of blood.

Dr. Edgerton could not possibly explain the remarkable recovery that Pete made but Pete and his mother, Lorraine, knew what had been going on.

"I know what helped me it was a greater power than that great surgeon; it was God. People were praying for me everywhere; friends, church groups and even strangers," said Pete. He knew that God had worked a miracle.

Dr. Edgerton did an exceptional job of reconstructing Pete's nose. He pulled back the scalp from the hair line and removed tissue to construct his nose. His face had been reconstructed from skin taken from his chest. Pete however, has no tear ducts.

Pete is not the only member of his family who has had a fight with cancer. His mother had surgery for cancer before Pete illness and has had a recurrance of the condition since his illness. Everything is now under control.

A member of Liberty Baptist Church, Pete is quick to acknowledge that with each new trial he faced his faith in God has grown and his Christian character has been strengthened and moulded as his dependence on God becomes greater.

Maybe, after all that has happened to him Pete Scruggs won't be the repairman he had someday hoped to be. He does, however, remember taking things apart, such as the family trailer.

Before his parents were divorced (they separated when he was seven), they lived in a mobile home.

One day, when he was just 'nosing' around, he noticed that the mobile home had a lot of screws in it. He got busy. For as far up as he could reac h he took a screwdriver and removed the screws.

When his Grandfather saw him, he yelled, "Pete Scrugs, you are in for a good whipping if you don't put those screws back in place this very minute!"

Pete remembers crying a while and returning screws to their proper place for a while; ,then he would cry some more and put in a few more screws until he finally finished.

Of one thing I am sure–Pete Scruggs and his mother are two of the most courageous people I have ever met. I am so glad that they believe as I do, that, with God's help we can face whatever problems come our way.

It is my prayer that Pete Scruggs will continue to be a witness for Jesus Christ; he is a good witness...the verry best!!

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Local Telephone Company Launches Drive To Encourage Employee Participation In Election Campaign

An election year program to encourage employees to participate in the political process has been launched by Continental Telephone of Virginia, according to Tom Phelps, Customer Service Manager.

Phelps stressed that the Company's role is strickly nonpartisan.

"Our purpose is to motivate employees to register, to learn about the candidates, to actively support those whom the employee feels reflects his or her own beliefs, to vote on election day, and continue to stay involved."

Called Involment '78, the effort is being conducted throughout the nation-wide Continental Telephone System, of which Continental Telephone of Virginia is a subsidiary.

According to Phelps, the campaign is being undertaken because of the corporation's deep-held conviction that only a concerned, active citizenry can assure us of having a responsible government - - one that serves the best interests of us all.

"Involvement '78 is not designed to aid one party or one candidate at the expense of another. Its sole purpose is to urge individual participation so that decisions affecting employees are made by them, not for them," he added.

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